



Childcare expansion



Stephanie Boyle Childcare Manager with KCH's Director Claire Rawlinson

Kyneton Community House recently took over management of the Hutton St site of the former Lady Brooks Kindergarten.

The space is currently being transformed into what will be known as the KCH Children's Hub.

The existing Childcare conducted by the Community House at 34 Mollison St will move to the new site in late January, pending building and landscaping works.

This move will allow the organisation to expand its hours of early education and care, as well as expand the intake for local families.

Please contact the Community House if you are interested in this service.

KCH Community Childcare offers subsidised priority placement to community members experiencing difficulties.

Regular activities have already started in the community space, including an Intergenerational Playgroup and Play and Learn Supported (PALS) playgroup, an innovative Australian model, bringing together all families – whatever their abilities – for shared activities, fun and learning.

The Community space will be available for hire for children's programs - contact KCH for further information.

KCH will also be opening up the building that previously housed the Kyneton Maternal Child Health Centre as a long term office space. Enquire to rent this space at 54223433.

Kyneton Community Carols

Kyneton Community Christmas Carols will be held Sun Dec 22 St Paul's Anglican Church starting at 7.30pm.

The event is open to everyone to come along, to join with the Kyneton Municipal Band, to sing the traditional Christmas songs.

The Carols are always well attended and enjoyed by all who participate. Santa will also make an appearance.

Preparing for Christmas

With sparkling Christmas trees on the corner of Mollison and Piper Sts and bows on the doors of many Kyneton businesses are embracing the festive season and they were rewarded by a good turnout for Twilight shopping on the evening of Friday Dec 6.



Christmas Variety Show

After a hugely successful sell out show last Christmas, Macedon Ranges based group Safe Space Performances will celebrate their 5th birthday with a very special variety show including a Christmas carols sing along to finish the year on a high.

Doors open at 7pm for a 7:30pm start on Dec 14 at The Bluestone Theatre in Kyneton. BYO food and drinks.

Tickets are available at <https://www.trybooking.com/CXGNQ>



New Macedon Ranges Council



Mayor Dominic Bonanno, CEO Bernie O'Sullivan and Deputy Mayor Kate Kendall

South Ward Councillor Dominic Bonanno has been elected by his fellow Councillors as Mayor and new West Ward Councillor Kate Kendall Deputy for the first year of the new Macedon Ranges Shire Council four year term.

Five of the nine councillors elected to Council in the postal ballot held in October will be new to the Council.

Each of the Council's three Wards elect 3 Councillors by proportional representation with candidates needing to reach a quota of 25% of votes either on first preferences or after preferences.

In Kyneton's West Ward, new Deputy Mayor Kate Kendall who ran a high profile campaign, topped the poll gaining a 38.7% primary vote. Recontesting Councillors Jennifer Anderson(22.2%) and Janet Pearce (12.3%) were elected after the distribution of preferences.

Callum Keats gained 11.3% of the primary vote whilst the other candidates Karan Hayman, Rob Bakes, Andrea Haintz and Ryan Templeton all gained 3% to 4% of the vote.

In South Ward recontesting Councillors Dominic Bonanno and Christine Walker were returned along with new Councillor Alison Joseph, whilst East Ward where former Councillors Annette Death and Bill West did not recontest, saw 3 new Councillors elected – Cassy Borthwick, Daniel Young and Andrew Scanlan.

Art Exhibition Kyneton Library



A showcase of the work of three talented local artists is on display at the Kyneton Library.

Contemporary paintings by Robert Wallace and Guy Aitken on the wall spaces, and exquisite traditional Thangka paintings by Liena Li are in the display cabinet.

Kyneton Library proudly offers free space to the community for displaying and promoting artwork.

In 2025, they will have wall spaces available for paintings and a cabinet for 3D work, such as crafts, sculptures, or hobbyist collections.

If you're interested in exhibiting your work, please chat with staff at the desk or call 54221365

NDIS funded services

Children and adults with a disability requiring allied health services have access to more options locally thanks to Sunbury and Cobaw Community Health.

Bookings are currently being taken for appointments early in the new year for a range of services including speech therapy (children 0 to 8 years), physiotherapy and occupational therapy (0 to 8 years and adults), podiatry and dietetics (children 7 years and over and adults) and exercise physiology (adults only).

For those on a NDIS plan, a formal referral is not required, just call their Kyneton office on 54211666 or email admin@scchc.org.au and a staff member will run through the referral process with you.

You can also drop into Sunbury and Cobaw Community Health at 1 Caroline Chisholm Dr Kyneton.

Vision Australia Meeting

The Kyneton Auxiliary of Vision Australia will meet in the Uniting Church meeting room at 1.30pm on Tues Feb 11.

Textile recycling

Australians send 200,000 tonnes of clothing to landfill each year.

Residents in the Macedon Ranges are helping to tackle this issue through the Council's free textile recycling program.



Old and damaged textiles, accessories and shoes that are not suitable for donation to Op Shops can be taken to the Council's resource recovery facilities for recycling.

Recently the Council's original textiles recycling service provider had ceased providing the service at short notice but an alternative provider, SCR Group has been contracted and the service has now resumed.

YOU CAN'T CONTROL FIRE, BUT YOU CAN PREPARE FOR IT.

The best way to keep you and your loved ones safe this fire season, is to make sure you have a fire plan.



Go to fireplanner.vic.gov.au to create your personalised fire plan now.

HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW FIRE?

Authorised by the Victorian Government, 1 Treasury Place, Melbourne



Show another huge hit



Tim Ryan and Lizzie Castles with their 21 month old twins, Edwina and Margaret Ryan, in the popular fleece pavilion

The 162nd Kyneton Show set new records with 9,000 people through the gates, the biggest crowds ever for the Friday night carnival and a record 3,100 entries in the pavilion competitions.

Photography and home baking had the biggest jump in entries. Jams, preserves and chutneys, farm produce, paper skills, painting and drawing were also up.

The animals and free activities remain the highlight of Show Day where young and old make the most of the chance to get up close to farm animals and learn more about farming in our region. Landcare gave away more than 1250 local plants.

Children loved testing themselves on the farm-themed country parkour obstacle course, pony rides or Paddy's crazy bikes, and exercising their creativity, whether planting seeds and crafting origami flowers in the Farm Shed, or hammering together their own toy ute in the Farm Workshop.

Kyneton Agricultural Society secretary, Josephine Rutledge, said the Show takes a dedicated committee a year to plan and many thousands of hours of work.

"The Show is growing every year and we can only do that because we have such incredible community support, from generous sponsors to all our amazing volunteers.

"We had more than 100 volunteers, from local school students to some in their 80s.

"It's just wonderful to see so many people contributing in all sorts of ways.

"The amount of work, the enthusiasm, the effort, the creativity, it's incredible.

"A massive thank you to everybody" Josie said.

Supplementing Trentham's water

On Fri Nov 22 and Sat Nov 23 Kyneton residents travelling along Caroline Chisholm Dr observed a tanker drawing water from the hydrant near the Ambulance station.

The tanker was carting water to Trentham to temporarily supplement Trentham's drinking water supply following unplanned maintenance work at the Trentham plant on Wed Nov 20 and filling of the Trentham Swimming Pool.

The carting was preventative as Coliban Water knew forecast hot weather over the weekend would cause a peak in demand and a delay in recovering usual water storage levels.

The water carting has since stopped.

At this stage, Coliban has no plans to cart water in the near future.



Kindness Collective thanks

Hugh Vardon, Manager of the Kindness Collective Kyneton, has thanked the Kyneton community for their generosity and care on behalf of the Collective.

"As the holiday season draws near, we at the Kindness Collective Kyneton want to express our deepest gratitude to our wonderful community.

"This Christmas, we're preparing 250 hampers to bring extra joy and relief to families in need across the Macedon Ranges.

"This mission requires significant resources, time, and care, and we couldn't do it without the generosity of our local residents, businesses who support us, and—most importantly—our incredible volunteers" Hugh said.

"Our volunteers are the heart and soul of the Collective. Their dedication, compassion, and countless hours of hard work make it possible to bring comfort and assistance to all who enter our doors.

"We need your support now more than ever.

"Whether it's donations of goods for our op-shop, financial contributions (which are tax-deductible) to help keep our free foodbank stocked with essential items for those experiencing financial difficulty, or your time volunteering, your help allows us to continue our important work.

"If you'd like to join us in the meaningful work we do we'd love to meet you! Please pop into our shop at 60 Mollison St for a chat about how you can help support us now and in the future.

"While you're there, come in for a browse of our amazing op-shop."

Op-shop hours are Mon to Fri 10 am to 4 pm, and Sat from 10 am to 2 pm.

"If you're seeking a warm meal and conversation, stop by our soup kitchen, open Mon to Thur at 12:30 pm, where you'll meet people from all walks of life.

"And for anyone finding it difficult to put food on the table, our foodbank is open from 10 am to 3 pm, Monday to Friday, to provide essential support.

"If you or someone you know is doing it tough, come in and see us.

"We understand that life can be challenging at times, and we are here to offer support.

"You're not alone, and we're here to help you through those difficult moments" Hugh concluded.

Festival seeking new helpers

The Kyneton Daffodil & Arts Festival 2024 in September was a great success, and the Festival Committee are now calling on your help to assist the Festival to continue.

"We need the following help – assistance in selling daffodil bulbs each Saturday March to May, secretary skills or minute/admin secretaries and also your assistance in the lead up to the festival or helping throughout the 10 days of the festival, any help such as with open gardens, art shows, ferret racing, Dog Dash and especially parade day would be much appreciated" Festival President Peter Henderson said. Contact kynetondaffodilandartsfestival@gmail.com.



Councillors Update



Welcome to a new council term. Your councillors for 2024-2028 include two familiar faces in Cr Jennifer Anderson and Cr Janet Pearce – and one new one in Cr Kate Kendall. We are excited about the next four years: representing West Ward, and the entire Shire, the best we can. Thank you to all candidates who ran for election – we acknowledge the hard work and effort you put into our community.

Macedon Ranges has nine council members in total and the six other council members are Cr Dominic Bonanno, Cr Alison Joseph (new) and Cr Christine Walker in South Ward and an all-new trio in East Ward with Cr Cassy Borthwick, Cr Andrew Scanlon and Cr Daniel Young.

We have just completed the new mandatory induction involving six full days of expert-led training and knowledge sharing. For the next 12 months, Cr Bonanno will be your Mayor and Cr Kendall your Deputy Mayor.

We would also like to take a moment to congratulate Cr Anderson on becoming the President of the Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) and Cr Pearce on becoming the Vice-President of the Victorian Local Governance Association (VLGA).

We are mid-way through the festive season at the moment in town and it's all things go until the end of the year.

We have just seen a huge wave of AGMs held by our vital non-profit and sporting communities and a highlight of our calendars – the Kyneton Show.

Huge congratulations to all of the volunteers who pulled together another incredible event.

It's nice to see the Christmas cheer in town with the wire tree installation at the corner of Mollison and Piper Streets.

The light blue colour theme this year is in honour of the Macedon Ranges Suicide Prevention Action Group.

You may also notice many storefronts also have sage green and blue bows on their doors to add to the cheer.

In terms of council consultations currently open to the community, the Kyneton Town Centre Urban Design Framework is back.

The updated draft is now available for community feedback until Fri Dec 20.

This document shapes how we interact with, navigate and enjoy our town's centre, so please make sure your voice is heard and leave your feedback.

If you're new to the consultation process – this is a great one to get involved in. You can submit as much or as little as you like.

The Fire Danger Period for our Shire started late last month and will remain in force until May 2025, unless otherwise advised.

Our landscapes are already looking quite dry. Please make sure you've prepared your properties adequately for bushfire season.

Don't forget there's a free green waste voucher on the back of the latest issue of Council's Shire Life newsletter.

In 2025, we are looking to hold monthly listening posts and coffee catch-ups across West Ward to stay better connected and informed.

We will be in touch with the exact details shortly.

We are also eagerly awaiting GROW Festival of Regenerative Food & Farming.

GROW is a one-day festival, field day and conference for anyone interested in food production, agriculture and the environment, held at Kyneton Racecourse on Feb 22, 2025.

Have a wonderful festive season and Happy New Year.

Cr Kendall on behalf of West Ward Councillors. Janet Pearce, Kate Kendall and Jennifer Anderson

A great time to visit Black Hill

Black Hill Reserve is a local treasure and early summer is a perfect time to visit.

Located just 5km north of Kyneton, this 260-acre reserve is a haven for nature enthusiasts and walkers.

As you wander through the Reserve, you'll be greeted by a diverse range of wattles, eucalypts and other flora.

The vibrant colours and fragrant scents make for a truly enchanting experience.

To enhance your exploration, consider using the 'Flora of the Macedon Ranges' guide, published by the Macedon Ranges Shire Council (MRSC).

This guide is available at the shire offices and will help you identify the beautiful plants you encounter.

Summer also brings many birds to the area.



Keep an eye out for the black-faced cuckoo-shrikes and fantail cuckoos, known for their distinctive calls.

A pocket guidebook on local birds, also published by the MRSC, is available at the Shire Offices and can be a handy companion for your birdwatching adventures.

Good news for hikers! The repairs on the Southeast Ridge Track are now complete, making both the ascent and descent much more enjoyable.

Whether you're tackling the more strenuous Ridge Track or opting for a gentler walk along the Circuit Track, the well-maintained paths ensure a pleasant journey.

So, grab your walking shoes, a guidebook, and perhaps a pair of binoculars, and head out to Black Hill Reserve to soak in the splendour of summer. Happy exploring!

The Friends of Black Hill Reserve Group is celebrating 45 years of activity and love to welcome new members of any age.

For further information visit their website.

Year of Gardens Progress

The Friends of Kyneton Botanic Gardens are delighted to be ending 2024 on a very positive note with major progress in the gardens, two successful tours as part of the Daffodil and Arts Festival, increased membership, a successful fundraiser with Kyneton Horticultural Society in November and significant plans for the year ahead.

Working with key staff within the MRSC Horticulture team has resulted in several key projects being either completed, commenced or planned. The first of these was their Bulb Planting Day in May which resulted in a fabulous display along the Clowes Street boundary of daffodils, tulips, ranunculi and freesias among others, in Spring.

The addition of a meandering pathway through the area, the brainchild of head gardener John, enabled visitors to get up close to the colour-coded planting beds and really enjoy the blooms.

Next was significant structural work on pathways, spoon drains and steps in the central section of the gardens which addressed washout and safety issues in some areas together with levelling between grass and garden beds or pathways in other areas.

Working bees of FKBG volunteers have continued throughout the year and have progressively weeded and culled many of the garden beds.



In November two MRSC contractors began work in the Fern Gully, one clearing the steep roadside embankment of weeds and elm suckers and a second restoring the historic bluestone pathways in preparation for staff and FKBG volunteers to begin

re-planting this significant section of the gardens.

To ensure the Kyneton Botanic Gardens are maintained and improved as a regional garden of historic and horticultural significance Council engaged Simon Rickard, renowned consultant and local resident. He will conduct an assessment of the current plants and design layout in the gardens and to advise on an overall planting scheme to guide any future work undertaken.

In keeping with this FKBG is hopeful that a major upgrade to the front entrance on Mollison St will go ahead soon, if Council funding is approved.

The Friends plan to include planter boxes to add some colour at the entrance to entice visitors inside the gates.

One of the Friends last tasks for the year has been to submit to Council its 2025-2026 Budget Priorities for consideration.

The submission details 4 key priorities for funding – new toilets on the site of the old laundry block on McKenna Drive; new plant labelling and way-finding signage; re-aligning and upgrading the western entrance off Clowes St and finally, restoring and adding new pathways within the gardens to improve flow and connectivity, particularly entry/exit points to/from the River Walk and Community Park playground areas.

Christmas at the Fire Station

The Kyneton firefighters have been busy putting up Christmas lights all over the Kyneton Fire Station in Ebdon St; a great display worth a visit at night. This year the Kyneton Fire Brigade is having a Santa Photoshop at the fire station.

Bring the kids and pets along to sit with Santa and snap a few Christmas photos.

The event will run over two sessions, the first on Fri Dec 13: 5-8pm and the second on Sat Dec 14: 9-1pm.

It is a walk up event with no bookings required, just come along on the day.

Each 5-minute photo session with Santa using your own camera (phone) will cost \$5 and go towards supporting the Kyneton CFA Brigade.

For the avid fire truck enthusiasts on Saturday a truck from Eastey Fire Trucks will be on show.

Vic Senior Achiever Award



On Oct 24 Kyneton resident Alan Moor was one of 10 incredible older Victorians who attended Government House to receive a Council of the Aging Victoria Senior Achiever Award.

The award was in recognition of Alan's dedication to community service and education within several local voluntary organisations including U3A Kyneton, the Kyneton Community House, and Kyneton Connections.

Alan has been a member of the U3A Kyneton Committee for ten years and has supported and developed the weekly Friday@U3A program.

Another project is the monthly Men's Kitchen, developed in partnership with U3A Hepburn.

This teaches cooking skills and is also a men's discussion group.

As Chair of the Kyneton Community House Board, he has overseen an expansion of the House's activities.

Of particular note is the establishment of the Good Food Hub in High St and the expansion of the House's child care service to meet the needs of a constant and growing waiting list for child care.

Lions Train Hire

The Kyneton Lion's Club train which you may have seen in use at the Kyneton Show or the Karlsruhe Annex fete is available for hire. For more details contact Dennis Bertincini: berto56@outlook.com



What's New in Business

Publican's daughter enlivens Shamrock



Hayley at front with the team—Bailey, Denise, Brad Ave, Sorcha, Corey and Karen

Hayley Wakefield, new owner of Kyneton's Shamrock Hotel at 120 Mollison St has a rich family history in operating Pubs.

Her family bought their first Hotel, the St Kilda Inn in 1986 in St Kilda.

Hayley's family owned over a dozen Hotels in Melbourne and country Victoria.

It taught her the importance of the local pub, being a pivotal place for people to congregate.

She was drawn to the Shamrock Hotel for its marvellous art deco features only needing love and attention to bring it to its former glory.

And she's done it.

The Hotel is operating 7 days a week and has a real buzz and an Irish flavour. Hours are 11am-9/10pm weekdays and 11am-late on the weekend.

Meals are available all day with a wide and affordable menu.

The extensive remodelled dining areas can be booked for functions.

The Shamrock's bar is back in full operation and proving popular. Counter meals are available 12-3pm weekdays at \$20.

Live music is featured from 8pm on Sat and from 4pm to 7pm Sundays.

Kyneton Betta relocating

Betta, retailer of home electrical appliances, has commenced its anticipated relocation from 25 High St Kyneton to a much larger premises at 30 Saleyards Rd.

Between now and Christmas/New Year Betta anticipate operating from both of their locations whilst the transfer of their massive range of merchandise is undertaken. *Kyneton Connect* will provide a full report in its Feb 2025 issue.

Central Spark Kyneton

Solar firm, Central Spark who have been travelling down the Calder since they opened in Castlemaine in 2014 have established an office in Kyneton at 3A Market St.

Central Spark's Matt Wilson said "We have been steadily growing based on goodwill and reputation and we needed more office space

"There's a large population from Malmsbury to Macedon, from Lancefield to Trentham who would benefit from a sturdy solar installer with local knowledge.

"Farms and semi-rural properties need large robust solar systems and modern architectural designs need sophisticated solar, and Central Spark does both".

"If you bring your power bill into our new office to talk solar and battery sizing, we'll buy you a cup of coffee."

The Kyneton office is open Mon-Fri 8.30am-4.30pm. Ph 0417595476.



Matt Somers of the Kyneton Central Spark Office

Healing at Mana Temple

Somatic Kinesiologist, Chelsey Power's Mana Temple at 48-50 Mollison St is no ordinary wellness studio.

"I believe we need a holistic approach to mental and physical wellbeing," Chelsey says.

"We are a complex blend of emotional, psychological, physical, and spiritual layers, which is why I combine talk therapy with bodywork".

Mana Temple spans two distinct spaces.

The Somatic Studio offers one-on-one sessions, blending somatic therapies, nervous system work, and kinesiology. And expansion in early 2025 will see the introduction of infrared sauna, chromotherapy and redlight therapy.

The Temple, in contrast, is a facilitation and workshop space designed for connection and community.

"We host yoga, somatic movement, and pop-up events led by facilitators who align with the Temple's values," Chelsey says.

Enquires can be made through the mana temple website or Instagram.

Guitar, piano & performance

Haydn Bateman is a professional musician and teacher from England who moved to Kyneton in September. Haydn studied at the world renowned, Chetham's School of music in Manchester.

He then went onto become a scholar and achieve a Bachelor's degree and Masters in Music from Royal College of Music in London.

With over a decade of experience performing classical and jazz guitar in venues all over Europe and teaching in a variety schools, privately and online all over the world, he is excited to bring his skills to Kyneton where some of his family reside.

Haydn is passionate about teaching from beginner to advanced levels.

He has already performed for a variety of events in the area and is available for music lessons and performing services for parties, restaurants, weddings etc.

Call Haydn on 0402106725 or email: haydnguitar@hotmail.com



Pro Physio Plus

Pro Physio Plus commenced operation at 89D Piper St on Nov 25.

Open Mon-Sat Pro Physio offers physiotherapy, strength & conditioning, personal training, remedial massage, e-movement testing and small group training tailored to each individual's goals. Visit www.prophysioplus.com.au for more details.

DRC Auto Electrical & 4X4



Kyneton's DRC Auto Electrical & 4X4 relocated from Bourke St to 205 Mollison St (Rodburn's former location adjacent to the Mollison Place intersection) on Nov 11.

Darren Crozier and his wife Michelle began their business in Johnson Crt in 1994 and 20 years ago moved to Bourke St.

The new Mollison St premises is a large modern facility with plenty of room to carry more stock.

The large workshop area has multiple hoists, fitting bays and work areas with plenty of parking out front for clients.

DRC can repair, custom build, service most things automotive from basic battery and headlight replacement to full overlander vehicle builds.

DRC 4x4 can design and install quality neat, reliable auxiliary power systems to cars, caravans, motorhomes, trucks and even bikes. They also specialise in Air Conditioning service and repairs.

Hours are 8.30-5.30pm weekdays and 9am-12pm Sat.

New Associate at ACD

Local Macedon Ranges resident Meredith Shumack LLB (Hons), an experienced lawyer and family law practitioner, has recently joined Kyneton law firm Armstrong, Collins & DeLacy.

ACD accepts instructions in a variety of matters including Family Law, Divorce, Wills & Estates, Employment Law, Property and Commercial Law.

To make an appointment to see Meredith Shumack, Kate Turner LLB (Hons) or Penelope Turner B.A.,J.D. at the ACD offices at 140 Mollison St call 5 4 2 2 1 6 7 7 or email reception@acdlawyers.com.au



Remedial massage service

Owned by certified remedial massage therapist Monica Herbert *Restored with Mon* is a local remedial massage service dedicated to nurturing the physical and emotional well-being.

Monica warmly welcomes all clients for in-clinic appointments at Twentynine on High St Kyneton, on Mondays and Saturdays.

Treatments include relaxation, deep tissue, pregnancy massage and remedial massage, with health insurance rebates available.



Monica also provides mobile massage services exclusively for women, focusing on postpartum and pregnant clients, delivering relaxation directly to their doorsteps.

Additionally, Monica offers local workplace wellness days throughout the year, promoting health and well-being among teams

To learn more or book a session, visit Monica's website or Instagram.

Input on updated Kyneton Plan closes Dec 20

The updated Draft Kyneton Urban Design Framework (UDF) has again been placed in the Your Say section of the Macedon Ranges Shire Council website with an input deadline of Dec 20.

The draft had twice been to the community for comment but the Sept Council meeting resolved that the updated draft be put out for further comment.

Kyneton Connections, publishers of this newsletter is encouraging those who use the Kyneton shopping area to inspect the Framework and make comments via Your Say.

"The authors of the framework take little account that the majority of people who use the Kyneton business area live out of town, at the edges of the town or are of an age where walking or cycling to the street is

difficult" Kyneton Connections President Eric Dearthcott said

The UDF states it aims to "Take a people-oriented approach that ensures human movement (including walking, cycling and slow vehicles (mobility scooters etc)) and public transport has safety, access and movement priority compared to cars and larger vehicles.

"A more balanced approach that regards drivers as people too is required, otherwise the UDF, if fully implemented risks people choosing to go to places other than Kyneton for their business or entertainment" Mr Dearthcott said.

Jennifer Anderson MAV President

Macedon Ranges West Ward Councillor Jennifer Anderson has become President of the Municipal Association of Victoria.

Jennifer had been Vice President but ascended to President when the former President David Clark stood down after failing to be re-elected to his own local Council.

"I am honoured to be the new President of the Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV).

"Having already served 12 years as a councillor for the Macedon Ranges Shire, and been on the MAV Board for 6 of these years this role of President of the peak body for local government provides a further opportunity to demonstrate the difference local government can make in the lives of everyone across our communities" Jennifer said.

"Local government is proudly the closest level of government to the people, and no one understands the challenges and opportunities facing Victorians better than local councils".

Jennifer will be MAV President until board elections in March 2025.



Around the Galleries

At the Stockroom

98 Piper Street

Current Exhibitions

To 05 January 2024

Steven Bellosguardo

What goes down must come up



*'What goes down must come up'
Installation: by Steven Bellosguardo*

and

Welfe Bowyer

Grotto - a collection of rings and objects

The Old Auction House

52-56 Mollison St

The Old Auction House gallery, studios and giftshop will be open 10am-4pm everyday including December 24 to allow visitors to explore the final gallery shows for the year:

"Buttlejorrk Artists Annual Exhibition" with special guests Macedon Ranges Potters & "Art of Craft" a celebration of many of the more crafty mediums, both until Dec 24.

The Old Auction House will return from their yearly closure on Jan 10 with a full schedule of gallery shows and a range of new and much-loved offerings of classes.

Exhibitions will include:

"Views of Elsewhere" – group exhibition of landscape art, Jan 10 – Feb 3.

"Festivalis" - group exhibition of Abstract Art, Jan 10 – Jan 27

"Stolen" – Solo Exhibition by Daniel Butterworth, a modernised interpretation of his travels through the Australian Landscape Feb 6-Mar 3.

"What does a Wombat Know?" - Faces and Voices of the Wombat Forest with works by Photographer Daniel Murray and Audio Producer Tessa Campisi, Jan 30 – Feb 17.

Workshops include:

"Eco-printing workshop", work with nature to create your own paper and fabric prints, Jan 18.

"Leadlight Windows Course" Jan 25 & 26.

"Botanical Still Life", relax while you capture a beautiful floral offering in acrylic, Jan 25

"Leather Dog Leash & Pouch", learn leather working skills while making your best friend a stylish lead and pouch. Feb 1.

Art on Piper 44 Piper St

During January and February Art on Piper's Exhibition Room will feature talented photographic artist Donna Crebbin's landscape wonders – a must see for lovers of the high country Brumbies.

Art on Piper will open 10am- 4pm seven days, (closed Christmas Day) and every day through holiday season, with a different artist to meet each day.

www.artonpiper.com

Art Group annual Exhibition

On the last weekend of the Kyneton Daffodil & Arts Festival the Kyneton Art Group held their annual Art Exhibition.

The Art Group reports that it was a wonderful weekend with over 550 people through and good sales.

"We would like to sincerely thank our sponsors for making possible all the prizes to our artists" Art Group President Anna McGrath said Helen Atherton won people's choice award with painting called Keen as Mustard sponsored by the RSL Kyneton

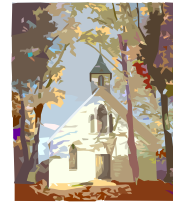
First Prize winners were: Portrait - Vivian Deller, Landscape Helen Atherton, Still life - Glenn Boxshall, Flora - Gina Auciello, Fauna - Helen Atherton.

The Esther Rose memorial prize for best watercolour was won by Heather McMahon.



Helen Atherton with her People's Choice winning work

Local Church services



Anglican

All weeks

St Pauls Kyneton

Sundays 10.30am

Wednesdays 10am

St Johns Malmsbury

Sundays 8.45am

Christmas week Kyneton

Sunday Dec 22

10.30 holy communion

7.30 pm community carols

Tuesday Dec 24

5pm family Christmas service

11.30 pm holy communion

Wednesday Dec 25

9am holy communion

St Johns Malmsbury

Sunday Dec 22

9.30am holy communion

Tuesday Dec 24

7pm holy communion

Baptist Kyneton

All weeks

Sundays 10am

Christmas

Wed Dec 25

9.30am Christmas service

Catholic

Our Lady of the Rosary Kyneton

Masses All Weeks

Mon, Thu, Sat: 9am

Tues: 5pm, Fri 9.30am

Sat 6pm, Sun 10.30am

Christmas week

Thu Dec 19

4pm Christingle Service

Tue Dec 24

6pm Christmas Carol Service

6.30pm Christmas Family Mass

Wed Dec 25

10am Christmas Carols

10.30am Mass for Christmas Day

Tues Dec 31

5pm Mass

Uniting Northern congregation

Christmas

Sun 22 Dec

7pm Carols Sutton Grange

Wed Dec 25

9.30am Worship Service Kyneton

Kyneton Stationeers

November was a busy month for Kyneton Stationeers, the volunteer community group working to enhance the surrounds of the Kyneton Station.

A Native Bee and Butterfly Garden was planted out at the entry to the Kyneton Station along Mollison St after the bed was cleared of weeds and mulched.

The plantings include Indigenous species of perennial everlastings, grasses, blue devils, purple coral pea.

The main task over summer is to keep the new plantings growing.

Volunteers are sought to help with watering - if you could assist, even once or twice, please email kynetonh1894@gmail.com.

Working Bees to maintain the station gardens will resume on Sun Jan 19 2025 at Kyneton Station (third Sunday of the month). You are welcome to join in.

For more information on the Kyneton Stationeers please email kynetonh1894@gmail.com.



VIEW ready to Soar

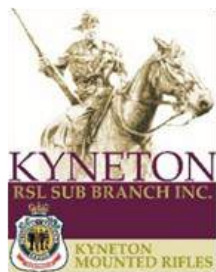
The formation of the new Kyneton VIEW (Voice, Education, Interests of Women) took place in mid November and ten local women were elected to the new committee for 2025. Susan Doyle is the President, Sarah Lockhart Secretary and Leonie Matthews Treasurer.

Lots of exciting activities, speakers and projects are planned for 2025, and the 30 or so new members are very keen to get started in their support of The Smith Family and their local community.

The Club will meet on the 3rd Monday each month at the Kyneton Hotel at 10.30am for an 11.00 am start followed by a lunch together for those who would like to stay on.

To find out more call Lyn Wilson on 0418126392.

Kyneton RSL



On Dec 3 the Kyneton RSL hosted a Veterans and Legacy Widows Christmas lunch. Some of the Club's WWII Veterans were also able to attend. A traditional Christmas dinner was served and all were given a Christmas gift.

There will be the usual New Year's Eve celebration at the RSL with entertainment provided by "Burning Daylight". Bookings are essential.

Camaraderie meetings will recommence on Feb 5 2025 and Veterans Catchup begins again on last Sunday in February.

RSL Active activities will continue in 2025. See Kyneton RSL website and facebook for more information closer to the time.

The bistro and all sections of the RSL will operate as normal throughout the Christmas/New Year season but will be closed on Christmas Day.

Morning Melodies and the live music will continue as normal.

If you know of a Veteran in need of assistance with home maintenance such as gutter cleaning, window cleaning, gardening or other needs, please contact the RSL on 54226735.

Kyneton Seniors

Chatter, raucous laughter and cups of tea plus a meal shared together with friends at Kyneton Seniors make for a day to remember for those who would otherwise be alone.

Over 2024 the Senior's weekly gatherings have continued with speakers, trade table, bingo, Quiz, etc.

The invitation to spend a day out with Riddell's Creek seniors to Craigieburn was most enjoyable.

Christmas will be celebrated on Dec 12 at the Kyneton Bowling Club - \$20 for members and \$33:50 non members. 11.30 start. Meal served 12pm

The club will then break until the first Thursday in February.

Bumper 2024 for U3A

This year has been one of achievement for U3A Kyneton with membership numbers exceeding 400 and an ever-growing program of activities and courses.

The U3A movement aims to cater for retirees, pensioners, semi-retired and seniors, with free and low-cost activities and courses.

Plans are well underway for 2025 with 62 courses, events, and activities planned and more on the way.

All are invited to U3A Welcome Day and find out about U3A Kyneton on Wed Jan 15 from 9 to 11.30 am, in the Boardroom at Kyneton Mechanics Institute. Or, visit U3A Kyneton on u3akyneton.org.au.

Activities include everything from dance, music, choir, card games, bush walking and table tennis to general fitness and a wide range of courses.



U3A Kyneton's Men's Kitchen tutor Robert Wooller was presented with the Tutor of the Year Award by President John Taubman.

CWA twilight branch calling for new members

Members of the Kyneton Twilighters CWA branch meet at 7pm at the Little Swallow Café 62 Piper St on the 2nd Thursday of every month, except January.

"Join in the fun with CWA Kyneton Twilighters!

"Be part of a vibrant community that supports, connects and empowers local women.

"Whether you're looking to make new friends, contribute to meaningful projects in the community, or just have a good time, the Kyneton Twilighters are always welcoming new members.

"Pop into a meeting and meet us, there's no obligation to join right away" President Sharon McNamara-Youl said.

For more information email kyneton twilighters@gmail.com or call Sharon on 0412218863.

Ray M Begg Auxiliary

As the year draws to a close it has been a very busy and successful one for the RM Begg Auxiliary.

The Auxiliary wish to thank the community and their very generous sponsors for their ongoing support.

Their thanks also to those who supported their raffle. Winners were:

1 Glenda Townsend, 2 Sue, 3 Toni Nielson, 4 Laurie Higgins, 5 Debbie, 6 Linda Szirer, 7 Lyn Watts, 8 Corina Sabo, 9 Marion Davenport, 10 Amanda Murfet, 11 Nancy Walsh, 12 Sharon, 13 Valerie Leiper.

Auxiliary stalls and Garage Sales will recommence on Sat Feb 1 2025.

Kyneton Masonic Lodge.

Unaffiliated Freemasons wanting to get back into the fold, or maybe those looking at joining a Lodge are being invited to call the Lodge Secretary on 0402003779.

The Lodge also advises that their Hall is for hire for functions at very reasonable rates and comes with full kitchen facilities, tables and chairs etc. It is ideal for shows, dances, trivia nights etc. Call the Hall manager on 0427046411.

KNFC Junior Netball Trials



Kyneton Football Netball Club is holding trials for its junior netball for the 2025 season in the Riddell District Football Netball League.

Trials will be held at the Kyneton Showgrounds on two separate dates: U 15 & U17 Thu Dec 12, U 11 & U 13 Thu Dec 19.

Register via the KNFC social media page or website.

Come & try croquet sessions

The Kyneton Croquet Club are hosting come and try sessions commencing on Wed Jan 15 2025 5pm-7pm. Tuition and equipment provided. Just turn up or email kynetoncroquetclub@gmail.com for further details.

The Band's Feb 23 Concert

On Sun Feb 23 the Kyneton Municipal Band will present a concert in the Kyneton Botanical Gardens starting at 2pm.

As in the past years the Band will combine with the Daylesford Brass Band to perform an entertaining program with a big band sound.

If you would like to learn how to play a brass instrument or are an experienced brass or percussion player and would like to join the Band call Bandmaster Hugh Davies on 0418519398.

Kyneton Community House

The Community House office will close from Dec 20 until Jan 29, with the Childcare service resuming on Jan 20.

Term 1 Activities will be available for booking through the House website.

The Kyneton Whole Town Garage Sale will be held on Sat Mar 22 with registrations opening in mid-Feb.

The Community Lunch will be in recess during the school holidays and is expected to resume at the Good Food Hub 35 High St on Wed Feb 5.

ALWAYS OBEY THE STOP SIGNS



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Kyneton District Services

Accountants

Watco Partners Pty Ltd 5792 2580

David J Gibney Pty Ltd 5422 6480

Acupuncture & Chinese Medicine

Dr Michele Downes 0407582036

Little Window Acupuncture 0459678684

Art Studio and Gallery

Maxine McKee at Trio Art 0467025354

Auto Services & Repairs

Kyn Auto Spares & Repairs 5422 1255

Vereker Bros Smash Repairs 5422 2603

Business Coach & Mentor

The Action Business Coach 0419464444

Chiropractor

Performance One 5422 6488

Computer Repair

Computers OK 0421367040

Concreting & Paving

MBC Concreting & Paving 0417545159

Dental

Campaspe Dental 5422 3988

Kyneton Dental 5422 6159

Dry Cleaning

Kyneton Dry Cleaners 5422 1503

Electricians

Macedon Ranges Electrics 5422 2182

Kyneton Electrics 5422 1369

Financial Planning

BTP Business Advisors Pty 5422 1588

Fishmongers

The Fishmonger Kyneton 0408127392

Holistic Health

Maiaveda Retreat & Spa 0420580886

Insurance

Macedon Ranges Insurance 4411 2704

Simplex Insurance Solutions 5422 3333

Legal Practices

Armstrong Collins & DeLacy 54221677

Palmer Stevens & Rennick 5422 6500

LP Gas Supplies

Hendersons the Gas People 5422 7408

Medical Practices

Campaspe Family Practice 5422 2877

Kyneton Medical Centre 5422 1397

Springs Medical Kyneton 5422 1298

Goonawarra Medical Centre 9744 9900

Optometrist

Kosmac & Clemens 5422 3822

Osteopath

Organic Mechanic Osteo 0423852874

Phone & Computer Repair

Kyn phone & computer repairs 0478866898

Podiatry

One Step Podiatry 54221397

Real Estate

Ray White Kyneton 5422 2127

RT Edgar 5422 3325

School Aged Childcare

BugALugs 5422 2767

Sewing Machine Repair

Jeff Leung 0431788360

Shoe Suppliers

Kyneton Shoes 5422 2090

Kyneton Events Calendar

Thur Dec 12	Thoroughbred Racing Kyneton Racecourse 11am
Sat Dec 14	Kyneton Farmers & Makers Markets St Paul's Park 8.30-1pm Kyneton Community Market Cnr Ebdon & Yaldwyn St West 8.30-1pm SSP Christmas Variety Show Bluestone Theatre Hutton St 7.30pm
Sun Dec 15	Old Time Dance St Mary's Hall 1.30-5pm
Tues Dec 17	Friends Kyneton Botanic Gardens Working Bee Ky Botanic Gardens 9.30a
Wed Dec 18	Kyneton Community Lunch 35 High Street 12.30pm
Fri Dec 20	Christmas Carols Social Foundry 6pm
Sat Dec 21	Carols by the Barrels and Christmas Tree Shamrock Hotel
Sun Dec 22	Community Christmas Carols St Paul's Church 7.30pm
Wed Dec 25	Christmas Day
Thur Dec 26	Boxing Day
Tues Dec 31	New Year's Eve Celebration Kyneton RSL
Wed Jan 1	New Year's Day Hanging Rock Races Hanging Rock Racecourse
Sat Jan 11	Kyneton Farmers & Makers Markets St Paul's Park 8.30-1pm Kyneton Community Market Cnr Ebdon & Yaldwyn St West 8.30-1pm
Sun Jan 12	'The Substance' Major Tom's Piper St 2pm
Wed Jan 15	U3A Kyneton Welcome & Registration Day KMI 9-11.30am
Fri Jan 17	Old Time Dance St Mary's Hall 7.30pm
Sun Jan 19	Stationeers Working Bee Kyneton Station 10-12noon
Sun Jan 26	Australia Day Races Hanging Rock Racecourse Australia Day Breakfast Kyneton Mechanics Reserve 8am
Sat Feb 1	Thoroughbred Racing Kyneton Racecourse 11am RM Begg Auxiliary Stalls Bolton Hall 9am-1pm
Wed Feb 5	Kyneton Community Lunch 35 High Street 12.30pm
Sat Feb 8	Kyneton Farmers & Makers Markets St Paul's Park 8.30-1pm Kyneton Community Market Cnr Ebdon & Yaldwyn St West 8.30-1pm Taylor Sheridan Major Tom's Piper Street 8.30pm
Wed Feb 12	Kyneton Community Lunch 35 High Street 12.30pm
Fri Feb 14	Soweto Gospel Choir—'Hope' Kyneton Town Hall 7.30pm Vision Australia Auxiliary Meeting Uniting Church 1.30pm
Sun Feb 16	Old Time Dance St Mary's Hall 1.30-5pm Stationeers Working Bee Kyneton Station 10-12noon
Tue Feb 18	Thoroughbred Racing Kyneton Racecourse 11am
Wed Feb 19	Kyneton Community Lunch 35 High St 12.30pm

Great Gigs for Major Tom's

The weekend of Dec 13 to 15 will see a great line up of gigs at Major Tom's 57 Piper St Kyneton.

On Fri Dec 13 starting at 8.30pm Grinding Eyes, The Black Heart Death Cult and Junkyard Wizards will be on show.

The next night Sat Dec 14 also at 8.30pm it's The Great Divides & Snowy and at 2pm on Sun Dec 15 Billy Barker, Anna Sneider, Claudia Joy and Jack Davies will perform as part of their collaborative tour of Victoria. To book tickets visit www.majortoms.com.au.

The Great Divides & Snowy

Town Planning Services

Macaulay Town Planning 5422 3054

Veterinarians

Dr Greg McIntyre 5422 1310



Soweto Gospel Choir – Hope



An all-new concert by three-time Grammy winning Soweto Gospel Choir commemorating South Africa's Freedom Movement and the Civil Rights Movement in the United States will be held in the Kyneton Town Hall 7:30-9pm, Fri Feb 14. Bringing joy to all, 'Hope' opens with a rousing program of South African freedom songs that inspired their Rainbow Nation.

Then the Choir's uplifting performance moves to the United States with beautiful renditions of the music of the Civil Rights Movement, including works by legendary artists Billie Holiday, James Brown, Otis Redding, Curtis Mayfield and Aretha Franklin. Book through Kyneton Town Hall Events site or call 1300888802.

Junior Netball in 2025

Are you looking to get your child involved in junior netball for 2025? The Kyneton Netball Association is inviting you to register your interest or find out more by emailing kynetonnetballjuniors@gmail.com. The Association prides itself on being a welcoming and inclusive environment. They participate in weekly games during the winter season with the Macedon Ranges Netball Association on Saturday mornings in New Gisborne and hold weekly training sessions in Kyneton, with age groups from Under 9's to Under 17's.

Dog Obedience

It has been another bumper year for the Kyneton Obedience Dog Club with their return to Barkly Square. The Club has welcomed over 80 new members from all parts of the Macedon Ranges and beyond. "We congratulate all of our members who work enthusiastically with their dogs to take them from beginners all the way up to grade 4" Secretary Sarah Gill said.

"We put our paws up for Christmas and restart on Sun Feb 2.

"We still have some places left in our Beginners Class for that month.

"If you are interested in joining email kynetonobediencedogclub@gmail.com.

"The first session is free".

For all information regarding the club please go its website.



Christmas bin collections

During 25-27 December, Macedon Ranges Shire residents are advised by the Council to put their bins out as usual and wait for them to be collected.

In most cases, bins will be collected a day late (i.e. bins usually collected on a Wednesday will be collected on the Thursday, bins usually collected on a Thursday will be collected on the Friday and bins usually collected on a Friday will be collected on the Saturday).

Old Time Dancing



The final Old Time Dance for 2024 is on Sun Dec 15 from 1.30-5pm at St Mary's Hall.

It's a Christmas themed event, so put on something 'Christmassy'.

If you can bring a plate, that would be terrific. Entry is \$8.

For this special occasion, following the dance a Christmas dinner has been arranged, for those who choose to attend, from 6pm at Kyneton RSL for a cost of \$20.

Pre-booking and pre-payment are necessary for catering purposes.

Contact Julie 0400126870 to enquire about the dance or book for the dinner.

Old Time Dancing in Kyneton for 2025 will resume on Fri Jan 17 at 7.30 in St Mary's Hall.

"Old Time Dancing at Kyneton" holds monthly Old-Time dancing events at St Mary's Hall, Hutton St Kyneton, on the third weekend of the month, generally alternating a Friday night (7.30-11pm) one month with a Sunday afternoon (1.30-5pm) the following month – although the winter months of June, July and August are all held on Sunday afternoons.



To the best of the Editors' knowledge the information contained in this newsletter is correct at the time of printing. Where inadvertent errors are made corrections will be included in the next edition.

Kyneton Connect Co-Editors: Eric Dearthcott 54222990, & Jenny Hince 54223364

- Articles for the February 2025 Issue of *Kyneton Connect* should be e-mailed to edearthcott@bigpond.com or left at Aesop's Attic, 70 High Street, Kyneton before Fri Feb 7 2025
- To have *Kyneton Connect* mailed send name, address and payment of \$15 for a year's subscription to Kyneton Connections, 18 Castles Cres, Kyneton 3444 or free by e-mail-write to e-mail address above. All recent issues of *Kyneton Connect* are posted on website www.kyneton.org.au

Layout: Marg Dearthcott

Auspiced by Sunbury & Cobaw Community Health Service Inc

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